

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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PASS USDA, AID

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: FAO, OCON
SUBJECT: WORLD CONFERENCE ON AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(WCARRD)

REF: (A) ROME 1634 (B) ROME 5556

1. FODAG HAS JUST RECEIVED THE SECOND STATUS REPORT OF THE WCARRD DATED APRIL 15, 1978.
2. REPORT IS BEING HAND CARRIED BACK TO WASHINGTON BY CFA DELEGATION FOR SCHUWEILER, AID, IN PREPARATION FOR WASHINGTON VISIT OF SANTA CRUZ WEEK OF APRIL 24. SINCE SANTA CRUZ IS ALREADY IN U.S., FODAG HAS NOT HAD A CHANCE TO DISCUSS VISIT WITH HIM.
3. ITEMS OF SPECIAL NOTE IN REPORT ARE: (A) DR. G. PARTHAWARATHY, ANDHRA UNIVERSITY, INDIA, HAS BEEN HIRED TO PREPARE FIRST DRAFT OF BASIC CONFERENCE DOCUMENT, "REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF PAST DEVELOPMENT AND POLICIES IN AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT SINCE THE MID-1960'S"; (B) A UN INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE MET MARCH 9-10 ATTENDED BY 13 UN ORGANIZATIONS TO REVIEW PREPARATIONS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSURE COORDINATION; (C) THE FAO DG REPORTED ON PREPARATIONS TO THE ACC IN LONDON APRIL 5-7; AND (D) THE HIGH-LEVEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS MET MARCH 29-31 TO ALSO REVIEW PREPARATIONS.

4. THESE VARIOUS REVIEWS HAVE BEEN IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE BROAD OUTLINE FOR THE CONFERENCE, SEE REFTELS. GREAT EMPHASIS IS LAID ON AN ACTION PROGRAM ARISING OUT OF THE CONFERENCE.

5. REPORT STATES BEGIN QUOTE IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL HAVE A PLENARY AND TWO COMMISSIONS, ONE OF WHICH WILL CONSIDER NATIONAL POLICIES OF AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE OTHER INTER-RELATED INTERNATIONAL POLICIES. CONFERENCE DISCUSSIONS WILL BE ARRANGED IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE WILL DEAL WITH THE PAST ACTIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS AND HIGHLIGHT RECOMMENDATIONS AND OPTIONS IN ORDER THAT THE CONFERENCE SESSION MAY CONCENTRATE ITS ATTENTION ON FUTURE POLICIES AND ACTION PROGRAMS. IT IS HOPED THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL APPROVE A DECLARATION AND A PROGRAM OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTION, A PROGRAM WHICH WOULD PRESENT IN CLEAR AND CONCISE TERMS OPTIONS WHICH GOVERNMENTS WILL ACCEPT FOR IMPLEMENTATION AS WELL AS RECOMMENDATIONS UPON WHICH FAO AND THE OTHER PARTICIPATING UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CAN BASE MEASURES FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTION. END QUOTE

6. REPORT NOTES MODESTY OF WCARRD BUDGET AND EXTRA-BUDGETARY FUNDS ARE NOW BEING SOUGHT FROM THE GOVERNMENTS, SOME OF WHICH AGREED AT THE TIME OF THE NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE FAO CONFERENCE TO PROVIDE SUCH SUPPORT. THE GOVERNMENT OF SWEDEN, THROUGH ITS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY SIDA, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF NORWAY, HAVE BEEN THE FIRST TO COME FORWARD WITH SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MEET PART OF THESE EXTRA-BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS.

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7. ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS WILL MEET AGAIN IN ROME JANUARY 17-19, 1979 AND A PREPARATORY COMMITTEE, OPEN TO ALL PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS WILL CONVENE IN ROME MARCH 12-16, 1979. GARDNER

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